

Message Text

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PAGE 01 VIENTI 04258 150226Z

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ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

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R 150001Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4401

S E C R E T VIENTIANE 4258

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, LA, US

SUBJ: DATT

REF: STATE 139334

FOR EA DEP ASST SECY MILLER AND DIRECTOR PM VEST

1. GENERAL ROSWELL ROUND, THE DEFENSE ATTACHE, HAS RECEIVED ORDERS TO REMAIN HERE UNTIL SEPTEMBER 1. THE MISSION HAS JUST RECEIVED A DIRECTIVE TO REDUCE ITS TOTAL SIZE TO BELOW 30. THIS REQUIRES DRASTIC REDUCTIONS IN ALL COMPONENTS. COUNTRY TEAM IS PROPOSING A DEFENSE ATTACHE OFFICE REDUCED TO 2, ONE OFFICER AND ONE NCO.

2. UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES AND IN LIGHT OF THE DIFFICULT RELATIONS WE MAY HAVE AHEAD WITH PGNU GENERALLY AND ITS ARMED FORCES PARTICULARLY, I DO NOT BELIEVE WE SHOULD MAINTAIN A GENERAL OFFICER OF THE U.S. ARMY HERE. IT WOULD BOTH GIVE THE WRONG SIGNAL REGARDING THE IMPORTANCE WE ATTACH TO MILITARY SITUATION HERE AND BE TOTALLY LACKING IN DIGNITY.

3. I AM THEREFORE SENDING THIS MESSAGE TO MAKE CLEAR THAT GENERAL ROUND IS FULLY PREPARED TO CARRY OUT HIS ORDERS AND IS INDEED RELUCTANT TO GO, BUT GIVEN OUR OVERALL INSTRUCTION REGARDING THE MISSION, HIS DEPARTURE

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IS BOTH NECESSARY AND WISE. I NEED HARDLY ADD THAT

THE REST OF THE CUUNTRY TEAM, AND I PERSONALLY, WILL
GREATLY MISS HIS STEADYING INFLUENCE AND TREMENDOUS
CONTRIBUTION. HE IS A SUPERB OFFICER AS I SHALL DESCRIBE
IN A SUBSEQUENT MESSAGE.
CHAPMAN

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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